BY-LAWS

—OF—

UNION LODGE, No. 9,

A. F. & A. M.,

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

Approved by the Grand Lodge of B. C.

TOGETHER WITH A

Masonic Burial Service,

ARRANGED FOR THIS LODGE.

NEW WESTMINSTER:
PRINTED AT THE "HERALD" OFFICE,
1878.

OFFICERS.

Brother JAMES SPEIRS, W.M.
" ROBT. B. KELLY, S.W.
" HENRY HOY, J.W.
" JOHN ALLISON, S.D.
" T. W. MERREL, J.D.
" V. B. TAIT. Treasurer.
" T.W. GRAY, Secretary.
" O. JACKSON, I.G.
" W. HOWAY, Tyler.

By-Laws.

Meetings.

1. The Regular Meetings of this Lodge shall be held the first Monday in each and every month, at the Masonic Hall, New Westminster, at 7:30 P.M. A Lodge of Emergency may be called at any time by the W. M., or in his absence, by the S. W., or in their absence, by the J. W., but on no other pretence without such authority. The business to be transacted shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon; and when called for conferring of degrees, three days' notice must be given.

2. The Masonic Year shall commence with the Regular Meeting in January.

Fees and Dues.

3. The Annual Subscription shall be $12 00 per year (except for those members who reside 15 miles

from the city of New Westminster, and their subscription shall be $9 00 per annum). All subscriptions to be paid quarterly, in advance.

4. The Initiation Fee shall be $50 00 for the three Degrees, including the Grand Lodge and Register Fees, payable as follows, viz.:

First Degree	$30 00.
Second Degree	10 00.
Third Degree	10 00.

Any applicant for affiliation to this Lodge, who is only an Entered Apprentice, and having been regularly admitted a member by ballot, shall have the privilege of taking the Fellow Craft and Master Mason's Degrees, but they must be conferred in strict conformity with Article 7, page 83, of the Book of Constitution, and the fees payable shall be as follows, viz.:

Second Degree	$15 00.
Third Degree	20 00.

5. The Affiliation Fee shall be $2 00, inclusive of the Grand Lodge Registration Fee.

Proposing Members.

6. All petitions for Affiliation or Initiation must be signed by the petitioner, and be recommended by two members of the Lodge. Every such petition shall be referred to a committee of three, whose duty it will be to report at the next regular meeting,

unless they be granted further time, when the applicant may be balloted for; or the ballot may be postponed to the next regular meeting, as the Lodge may determine. The petition must give the name in full of the candidate, age, profession, and place of abode, that these particulars may be correctly recorded and mentioned in the summons.

7. No person shall be made a Mason without a regular proposition at one Lodge, and a ballot at the next Regular Lodge, which shall not take place unless his name, profession, and place of abode shall have been sent to all the Members, in the summonses.

8. Except in cases of seafaring and military men, no person shall be made a Mason unless he has resided in the jurisdiction for at least one year, or shall produce a certificate of character from the nearest Lodge to the place of his previous residence.

9. No person shall be made a Mason in this Lodge, who is not a freeman, of the age of twenty-one years, his own master, in reputable circumstances, and living in a legitimate manner; and also he must be able to read and write.

10. And no person shall be made a Mason, if on the ballot there appears one Black Ball against him; and at the ballot for admitting a Brother to affiliate in the Lodge, three Black Balls will exclude him.

11. All petitions for affiliation must be accompanied by the Brother's Grand Lodge Certificate,

and a Receipt, from the former Lodge, of all his dues having been paid up.

12. The Brother proposing a Candidate for Initiation shall, at the time of the proposition, deposit in the hands of the Treasurer $10 00. If the Candidate be not elected the deposit will be returned; but if the Candidate be elected and does not present himself for initiation within three months after his election (unless sufficient cause be shown for his non-attendance) the election shall become void, and the deposit-money shall be forfeited to the general fund of the Lodge.

13. If any Brother or Candidate, on being balloted for, be rejected, it is required of every Brother and visiting Brother present, that they do not, on the honor of Masons, at any time or under any circumstances, improperly disclose the same; any Member violating this rule shall be suspended from Membership until a full and satisfactory apology has been made to the Lodge, and any visitor guilty of like conduct shall not be allowed to visit the Lodge again, or become a Member, until a full and satisfactory apology has been made to the Lodge; and that any Brother present may not plead ignorance, the W. M. shall direct this Law to be distinctly read in open Lodge, immediately after rejection and previous to any communication being made to the applicant.

Visitors.

14. No unaffiliated Brother shall be allowed to visit the Lodge more than once in each year, except

with the consent of the W. M. and all the members present.

15. No visitor shall be admitted into this Lodge unless he be personally recommended, or well vouched for; or after due examination by one or more of the Brethren present, and shall have entered his name, Masonic rank, and the name and number of his Mother Lodge, or the Lodge he hails from, in a book to be kept by this Lodge for that purpose; and during his continuance in this Lodge he must be subject to its By-Laws.

General Rules.

16. This Lodge shall not on any pretence make more than five new Brothers in one day, unless by dispensation, in which case the number of persons shall be set out in the dispensations; nor can a rejected applicant for initiation, in the Province, be ballotted for in this Lodge within six months from the time of such rejection. This Lodge, rejecting a candidate, shall forthwith notify every Lodge in the Province of such rejection. Nor shall a higher degree be conferred on any Brother at a less interval than two weeks from his receiving a previous degree, except by dispensation, nor in any case until he has passed a satisfactory examination in open Lodge in such previous degree.

17. A Brother who has been concerned in making Masons clandestinely, or at a Lodge which is not a regular Lodge, or for small and unworthy considerations, or who may assist in forming a new Lodge without the Grand Master's authority or that of his

Deputy, shall not be admitted as a member of this Lodge, or even as a visitor, until he shall have avowed his guilt to, and been reinstated by, the Lodge of which he is or was a member. Any member offending against this rule shall be dealt with as a majority of the Brethren, in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws, may determine.

18. No member shall be allowed to withdraw his name from the books of this Lodge until all arrears shall have been liquidated.

19. Any member who shall so far forget the respect due to himself and the members of the Lodge as to appear at any meeting in a state of insobriety, or in unclean and indecent apparel, or who shall make use of any immoral or uncourteous language, or who by any improper conduct shall disturb the peace and harmony of the Lodge, or who shall not obey the gavel of the Master when called to order, shall for the first offence be admonished by the Master; for the second, be compelled to withraw from the room for the evening; and should he for a third time be guilty of a similar offence, shall be suspended, until he in open Lodge makes proper acknowledgement of the fault and promises amendment.

20. Every member who speaks shall rise in his place and remain standing while addressing the Master; nor shall any Brother presume to interrupt him, unless to address the Master to a point of order, or unless the Master shall think fit to call him to order; but after he has been set right he may proceed, if he observe due order and decorum.

Should two arise at the same time, the Master shall decide which is entitled to the floor.

21. Every member in speaking shall designate each officer of the Lodge by his proper title, and it shall be the duty of the Master to see this law duly enforced.

22. Any member who shall be guilty of any misdemeanor not directly specified in the foregoing By-Laws, shall be dealt with according to the discretion of a majority of the members present at any regular meeting, which decision shall be final—subject, nevertheless, to an appeal to the Grand Lodge.

23. Any Brother or candidate, at whose instance and request an Emergency Communication shall be called, shall pay the sum of $5 00 to defray the expenses of such Emergency; and all fees for dispensations shall be paid by the Brother asking for the same.

24. Every Brother desirous of retiring from the Lodge shall give a written notice to that effect before the expiration of the quarter, otherwise he will be charged with the subscription for the succeeding quarter.

25. All subscriptions and fees, being payable in advance, are therefore arrears if not so paid, and shall be treated accordingly at the end of the quarter, when notice shall be given to every member in arrears; and members three months in arrears shall not be allowed to vote or speak in the Lodge, and

when twelve months in arrears shall be liable to be struck off the roll of membership.

26. No Brother shall be admitted an Honorary Member of the Lodge, except upon a proposition to be decided by ballot, as specified in the article for the admission of candidates; but such Honorary member cannot vote on any occasion.

27. The Treasurer shall keep an exact account of all moneys received and paid on account of the Lodge. The accounts shall be audited quarterly; and the balance appearing to be due to the Lodge at the end of the year shall be paid over to the newly-elected Treasurer, as soon as his initiation shall take place.

28. The cash arrears of contributions, furniture, and other appendages belonging to the Lodge shall be, and the same, by the consent of all the members, are hereby vested in, and shall be deemed the property of, the Master or Wardens for the time being, in trust for the use and benefit of the Lodge, and to be paid, applied, and disposed of as the majority of the members shall, from time to time, in due form, direct; and an inventory of the jewels, furniture, &c., belonging to the Lodge, shall be entered in the Minute Book and a copy of the same delivered to the Master at his installation, who shall see that the same is correct, and then pass them over to the Treasurer, who shall be responsible to him for their safe keeping.

29. A committee consisting of the Master and the two Wardens shall audit the Treasurer's ac-

counts quarterly, and the immediate Past Master and Wardens, at the end of the Masonic year, between the period of election and installation of the Master, and shall superintend the finances and property of the Lodge. A written report of their proceedings, with a clear and ample statement of the funds of the Lodge, shall be laid before the next meeting of the members.

30. It is the duty of the Secretary to record the Minutes, assist the W. M. and Permanent Committee in examining the Treasurer's and other accounts, and to issue the summonses for all meetings, whether for Emergency or Regular Lodge nights.

31. The Tyler shall deliver the summonses without delay, immediately he receives them. He is to have the Lodge Room ready by the time specified, to attend regularly, and to be careful that the furniture and jewels are clean and in good order.

32. The W. M. and the two Wardens shall be a Charity Committee, and shall have power to draw upon the Treasurer for any sum not exceeding $25 at any one time, for the relief of a distressed worthy Brother, his widow or orphans.

33. No new law, or repeal or alteration of an old one, shall become valid until it shall have received the sanction of a two-thirds vote of the Lodge at two successive meetings.

34. When any question shall have been determined by the Lodge and confirmed, the same shall

not again be agitated within twelve months, unless two-thirds of the subscribing members sign a request in writing for that purpose.

35. A Lodge of Instruction may be held, under the sanction of this Lodge, for the improvement of the members, at such time as the W. M. may appoint.

36. The election of W. M., S. W., J. W., Treasurer, Secretary, and Tyler shall take place at the Regular Meeting in December.

37. A copy of the Bylaws shall be fairly transcribed in a proper book, and signed by every member of the Lodge, as a pledge of his intention to observe and keep the same, and a printed copy shall be delivered to him; they shall also be read by the Secretary in open Lodge at least once in every year.

38. Any member who shall so far forget the respect due to himself and the members of this Lodge as to make use of immoral language, become a habitual drunkard, a gambler, or allow gambling in his house, shall be reprimanded, suspended, or expelled, as the Lodge may determine, after due trial.

Lodge Seal.

39. The Seal of this Lodge shall be in the custody of the Secretary, under direction of the Worshipful Master, and shall be affixed to all proper documents; should it be hereafter changed,

the impression so adopted shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary at the earliest opportunity.

JAMES SPEIRS, W.M.
ROBT. B. KELLY, S.W.
HENRY HOY, J.W.

T. W. GRAY, Secretary.

Approved, 27th June, 1878.

ELI HARRISON, Grand Master.
ELI HARRISON, JR., Grand Secretary.

A

Masonic Burial Service,

ARRANGED FOR THIS LODGE.

Burial Service.

No Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order, unless he shall have been raised to the Third Degree. Fellow Crafts and Entered Apprentices are not entitled to Masonic obsequies, nor can they join in processions on such occasions.

All Brethren in attendance at a funeral should be decently clothed in black, with crape upon the left arm, and with white gloves and aprons.

The Brethren having assembled at their Lodge Room, the Master opens the Lodge in the Third Degree of Masonry, and states the purpose for which it has been called together.

The service is then commenced as follows:

MASTER.—What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? Shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?

RESPONSE.—Man walketh in a vain shadow; he heapeth up riches and cannot tell who shall gather them.

MASTER.—When he dieth he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him.

RESPONSE.—Naked came he into the world, and naked must he return.

MASTER.—The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

Solemn music may here be introduced, after which the Master, taking the Sacred Roll in his hand, says:

Let us die the death of the righteous, and let our last end be like theirs.

RESPONSE.—God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even unto death.

The Master then records the name and age of the deceased upon the roll, and says:

Almighty Father! Into thy hands we commend the soul of our beloved brother.

RESPONSE.—(Repeated thrice, giving the grand

honors each time,)—The will of God is accomplished! So mote it be! Amen!

The Master then deposits the roll in the archives, and repeats the following prayer:

Most Glorious God! Author of all good, and giver of all mercy! Pour down Thy blessings upon us, we beseech Thee, and strengthen our solemn engagements with the ties of sincere affection! Endow us with fortitude and resignation in this our dark hour of sorrow, and grant that this afflicting dispensation from Thy hands may be sanctified in its results upon the hearts of those who now meet here to mourn! May the present instance of mortality remind us of our approaching fate, and draw our attention towards Thee, the only refuge in time of need: that, when the awful moment shall arrive at which we must quit this transitory scene, the enlivening prospect of Thy mercy may dispel the gloom of death, and that, after our departure hence in peace and in Thy favor, we may be received into Thy everlasting kingdom, to enjoy the just reward of a virtuous and pious life. Amen!

RESPONSE.—So mote it be!

Solemn music may here again be introduced, during which a procession is formed. If the body be not in the Lodge Room, the procession will move to the house of the deceased, and thence with his remains to the place of sepulture, in the following order:

The Tyler, with a drawn sword;
Stewards, with white rods;
Musicians;
(if Masons; otherwise they will follow the Tyler;)
Master Masons;
Junior and Senior Deacons;
Secretary and Treasurer;
Junior and Senior Wardens;
Past Masters;
The Holy Writings,
on a cushion covered with black cloth, carried by the Oldest Member of the Lodge;
The Master;
The Reverend Clergy;

The	COFFIN.	Body,
with the insignia		placed thereon;
Pall Bearers;		Pall Bearers;

Mourners.

The Brethren should not leave their places during the procession. Upon arriving at the place of burial, the members of this Lodge will form a circle around the grave; the clergyman and officers of the Lodge will proceed to its head, and the mourners will be placed at the foot. The services will then be resumed by the Master, as follows:

Once more, my Brethren, have we assembled to perform the last sad and solemn duties to the dead. The mournful notes which betoken the departure of

a spirit from its earthly tabernacle have again alarmed our outer door, and another has been taken to swell the numbers in that unknown land whither our fathers have gone before us.

Our brother has reached the end of life. The brittle thread which bound him to earth has been severed; and the liberated spirit has winged its flight to the unknown world. The silver cord is loosed; the golden bowl is broken; the pitcher is broken at the fountain, and the wheel is broken at the cistern. The dust has returned to the earth, as it was, and the spirit has returned to God who gave it.

While we deplore the loss of our beloved brother, and pay this fraternal tribute to his memory, let us not forget, my Brethren, that we, too, are mortal; that our bodies, now so strong and vigorous, must, ere long, like his, become tenants of the narrow grave; and that our spirits, too, like his, must return to the God who spake them into existence, "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth as a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not." The Almighty FIAT has gone forth—"Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return"—and that we are all subject to the dread decree, the solemn cause of our present meeting, the daily observation of our lives, and the mournful mounds which indicate this population of the dead, furnish evidence not to be forgotten.

Seeing then, my Brethren, that life is so uncertain, and that all earthly pursuits are vain, let us no longer postpone the all-important concern of preparing for eternity; but let us embrace the present

moment, while time and opportunity offer, to provide against that great change when all the pomps and pleasures of this fleeting world will pall upon the sense, and the recollection of a virtuous and well-spent life will yield the only comfort and consolation. Thus we shall not be hurried, unprepared, into the presence of that all-wise and powerful Judge, to whom the secrets of all hearts are known; and on the great day of reckoning we shall be ready to give a good account of our stewardship while here on earth.

With becoming reverence, then, let us supplicate the Divine Grace to insure the favor of that Eternal Being whose goodness and power know no bounds; that, on the arrival of the momentous hour when the fading taper of human life shall faintly glimmer in the socket of existence, our faith may remove the dark shroud, draw aside the sable curtains of the tomb, and bid hope sustain and cheer the departing spirit.

This city of the dead, my Brethren, has an overwhelming emphasis in its solemn silence. It tells us of the gathering, within its embrace, of the parents' fondest hopes; of the disseverance of all earthly ties to the departed ones who gave us birth; of the darkness into which the bright prospects of the loving husband and the devoted wife have suddenly been engulfed; of the unavailing grief of the affectionate brother and tender sister; of the dread sleep of death which here envelops the subjects of many an early, many an instantaneous call into eternity, given in the midst of health, of gaiety, and of brightest hopes.

And our departed brother, where is he? All that remains of him here on earth is now enclosed in that narrow coffin, a lifeless mass of clay. The deep, the agonizing sorrow of those to whom he was most near and dear—the scalding tears which have been shed upon his last earthly tenement—the manly and fraternal grief of his Brethren of the Mystic tie—are all by him unheeded. His every faculty has fled; the purple current which sustained his life has ceased to flow; the tongue, which was wont to give utterance to the emotions and feelings of the heart, performs no more its functions; the eyes, which so lately reflected the movements of the intelligent principle within, are now closed in death;—unfitted to remain longer on earth, we lay him reverently beneath its surface.

A little, narrow spot is all that he now can fill; the clod will hide him from our view, and the places which have known him here will know him no more forever. We consign him to the grave—to the long sleep of death; and so profound will be that sleep that the giant tread of the earthquake even shall not disturb it. There will be slumber until the Archangel's trump shall usher in that eventful morn, when, by our Supreme Grand Master's word, he will be raised to that blissful Lodge which no time can remove, and which, to those worthy of admission, will remain open during the boundless ages of eternity. In that Heavenly Sanctuary, the Mystic Light, unmingled with darkness, will reign unbroken and perpetual. There, amid the sunbeam smiles of immutable love, under the benignant bend of the All-seeing Eye, in that temple, not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens,—

there, my Brethren, may Almighty God, of His infinite mercy, grant that we may all finally meet, to part no more.

The following invocations are then rehearsed by the Master, and responded to by the Brethren.

MASTER.—May we be true and faithful, and may we live and die in love!

RESPONSE.—So mote it be!

MASTER.—May we profess only that which is good, and may we always act in accordance with our professions!

RESPONSE.—So mote it be!

MASTER.—May the Lord bless us and prosper us, and may all our good intentions be crowned with success!

RESPONSE.—So mote it be!

MASTER.—Glory be to God in the highest! on earth peace and good will toward men!

RESPONSE.—So mote it be, now, henceforth, and forever more. Amen!

The apron is then taken from the coffin and handed to the Master; the coffin is deposited in the grave; and the Master continues:—

This Lambskin, or White Apron, is an emblem of Innocence, and the peculiar badge of a Mason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or

Roman Eagle, and, when worthily worn, more honorable than Star or Garter, or any other order which earthly power can confer. This emblem I now deposit in the grave of our deceased brother. (Drops it in the grave.) By this act we are reminded of the universal dominion of Death. The arm of Friendship cannot oppose the King of Terrors; the shield of Fraternal Love cannot protect his victim; nor can the charms of Innocence avert his fatal touch. All, all must die. This grave, that coffin, and this circle of mourning friends, remind us that we too are mortal, and that ere long our bodies also shall moulder into dust. How important then it is for us to know that our Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

(Taking the sprig of Acacia in his hand)

This evergreen, which once marked the temporary resting place of one illustrious in Masonic history, is an emblem of our enduring faith in the immortality of the soul. By it we are reminded that we have an immortal part within us, which shall survive the grave, and which will never, never die. By it we are admonished that, though like our brother, whose remains now lie before us, we too shall soon be clothed in the habiliments of death, and be deposited in the silent tomb, yet, through the loving goodness of our Supreme Grand Master, we may confidently hope that, like this evergreen, our souls will hereafter flourish in eternal spring.

The brethren here move in procession around the

grave, each depositing in it a sprig of evergreen as he passes the head. The Secretary then drops his roll upon the coffin, and public grand honors are given thrice, all repeating at each time :—

The will of God is accomplished ! So mote it be ! Amen !

The ceremony is then continued by the Master, as follows :—

From time immemorial it has been the custom among the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a brother, to accompany his remains to the place of interment, and there to deposit them with the usual formalities of the Order.

In conformity to this usage, and in accordance with the duty which we owe to our departed brother, whose loss we now most deeply do deplore, we have assembled in the character of Masons to offer up to his memory, before the world, the last sad tribute of our affection; thereby demonstrating the sincerity of our past esteem for him, and our steady attachment to the principles of our beloved Order.

The Great Creator having been pleased, out of His infinite mercy, to remove our brother from the cares and troubles of this transitory life, thus severing another link in the fraternal chain by which we are bound together—let us, who survive him, be yet more strongly cemented by the ties of union,

friendship, and brotherly love; that, during the brief space allotted to us here, we may wisely and usefully employ our time, and, in the reciprocal intercourse of kind and friendly acts, mutually promote the welfare and happiness of each other.

Unto the grave we have consigned the body of our deceased brother—earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust—there to remain until the last trump shall sound on the resurrection morn. We can trustfully leave him in the hands of a beneficent Being, who has done all things well; who is glorious in his holiness, wondrous in his power, and boundless in his goodness; and it should only be our endeavor so to improve the solemn warning now before us, that on the great day of account, we too may be found worthy to inherit the kingdom prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

To the bereaved relatives of him we mourn, who now stand heart-stricken by the heavy hand which has thus been laid upon them, we have but little of this world's consolation to present. We deeply, sincerely, and most affectionately sympathise with them in this afflicting dispensation; and we put up our most fervent prayers that "He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," will look down with compassion upon the widow and the fatherless, in this their hour of desolation, and will fold the benevolent arms of His love and protection around those who are thus bereft of their earthly stay.

The Master, or Chaplain, will then repeat the following prayer:—

Almighty and Eternal God,—in whom we live

and move and have our being,—and before whom all men must appear at the Judgment-day to render an account of their deeds while in this life—we, who are daily exposed to the flying shafts of death, and who now surround the grave of one who has fallen in our midst, do most humbly beseech Thee to impress deeply on our minds the solemnities of this day, and to grant that their remembrance may be the means of turning our thoughts from the fleeting vanities of the present world, to the lasting glories of the world to come. Let us continually be reminded of the frail tenure by which we hold our earthly existence; that in the midst of life we are in death; and that, however UPRIGHT may have been our walk, and however SQUARE our conduct, we must all submit as victims to the great Destroyer, and endure the humbling LEVEL of the tomb. Grant us Thy Divine assistance, O most merciful God, to redeem our misspent time; and in the discharge of the important duties which Thou hast assigned us in the erection of our moral edifice, wilt Thou give us WISDOM to direct us, STRENGTH to support us, and the BEAUTY of holiness to adorn our labors and render them acceptable in Thy sight. And when our WORK on earth is done, and our bodies shall go down to mingle with their kindred dust, may our immortal souls, freed from their cumbrous clay, be received into Thy keeping, to rest forever in that spiritual house, not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. Amen!

RESPONSE.—So mote it be!

The Master then approaches the head of the grave and says:—

Soft and safe to you, my brother, be this earthly bed! Bright and glorious be thy rising from it! Fragrant be the cassia sprig that here shall flourish! May the earliest buds of Spring unfold their beauties o'er this your resting place, and here may the sweetness of the Summer's last rose linger longest! Though the cold blasts of Autumn may lay them in the dust, and for a time destroy the loveliness of their existence, yet the destruction is not final, and in the Spring they shall surely bloom again. So, in the bright morning of the world's resurrection, your mortal frame, now laid in the dust by the chilling blast of Death, shall spring again into newness of life, and expand, in immortal beauty, in the realms beyond the skies. Until then, dear brother, until then, farewell!

BENEDICTION.

The Lord bless us and keep us—the Lord make His face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us —the Lord lift upon us the light of His countenance, and give us peace!

RESPONSE.—Amen! So mote it be!

Thus the services end. The procession will form and return to the Lodge Room, and the Lodge will be closed in the customary manner.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS.

SEC. 35. The W. M. shall appoint at the first meeting in July, 1897, and thereafter at the first meeting in January in each year, two members of the Lodge, to act with a similar number appointed from King Solomon Lodge, as members of a Board of Relief for the City.

SEC. 36. The Board of Relief shall elect its Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer from among its own members, and may adopt such regulations for its own guidance as it may think best.

SEC. 37. The Board of Relief so constituted shall deal only with relief necessary for transient brethren.

SEC. 38. For the purpose of providing the necessary funds for the Board of Relief, the Lodge shall contribute annually an amount equal to 50 cents for each of its members. This amount shall be based on the membership as existing on the 31st of December in each year, and shall be paid to the Board semi-annually, on the 1st of January and 1st of July in each year.

SEC. 39. The Board of Relief shall report annually to the Lodge at the first meeting in January in each year, giving a full and complete statement of its transactions for the past year. Such statement shall show the total receipts of the Board, and the amounts disbursed for relief and for expenses.